



Area Safe Communities Coalition (ASCC)
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Area Safe Communities Coalition in Action

Mohall, N.D. - The Area Safe Communities Coalition is an active group of professionals and community members from the Mohall-Lansford-Sherwood-Tolley-Rural Antler area. The coalition focuses its efforts on substance abuse prevention and injury prevention. They've been in operation since 2009, as a project of the Mohall Ambulance Service after a series of alcohol-related vehicle accidents occurred within the community.

The Area Safe Communities Coalition was selected as a Targeted Community in 2010 by the N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to receive specialized substance abuse prevention services. As a Targeted Community, the coalition has developed a strategic plan that focuses on underage drinking and adult binge drinking.

To kick-off their substance abuse prevention efforts, the coalition has recently launched a 'Positive Messaging' campaign. You may have seen the image above in grocery bags, church bulletins, and at various locations around town. The coalition encourages adults to be positive role models to the youth in their lives!

Next, the coalition is focusing their efforts on bringing Server Training, which is an educational class for servers on laws and liabilities relating to underage drinking and over-serving of alcohol, as well as a Prescription Drug Abuse Campaign.

Community members might be familiar with the coalition due to their past efforts which include hosting New Year's Eve alcohol-free events; Red Ribbon Week activities throughout the community; Town Hall Meetings; and a white-out event in collaboration with the school.

The coalition meets the first Thursday of every month at noon at various locations. To get involved or for more information, contact Diane Witteman at 701-756-6183 or visit the coalition's website at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/prevention/mohall.html>.

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